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WASHINGTON REPORT

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December 17, 1975

WAXMAN BACKS TAXPAYERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) has co-authored comprehensive legislation to make the Internal Revenue Service more responsive to both the Congress and the public.

According to Waxman, the most important provision in the tax reform legislation is a very strong prohibition against disclosing Federal tax return information for purposes other than tax collection.

"We in Congress are determined that the shocking abuses of the Watergate era not be repeated. The tax reform legislation I have co-authored will make it impossible for a President or anyone else in government to use tax audits and other forms of IRS harassment to punish those on an "'enemies list."

The taxpayers' bill of rights legislation also provides for a taxpayers complaint office from which immediate relief might be sought in cases where an IRS error might be causing financial hardship. In summarizing the IRS reform legislation Congressman Waxman said,

"The Internal Revenue Service should not be a hostile agency against which the taxpayer must fight. Our legislation will make IRS procedures more just, easier to understand, and easier to appeal when a taxpayer has been treated unjustly."

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